



A Newsletter for Recycling Coordinators

DHEC honors state's top recyclers

The top recycling programs, projects and people were honored February 10 during the ninth annual Recycle Guys Awards Program hosted by the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC).

"This is our way to recognize, thank and make everyone aware of the hard work that is taking place throughout the state," said William W. Culler, director of DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling. "South Carolina's recycling programs compare favorably to those in any state and it's because of the commitment and dedication of local governments, staff and, of course, all of those who recycle."

Vickie Williams of Greenville County received the Jack Hirst Recycling Coordinator of the Year Award. Williams was honored for her work in improving the county's recycling program with an integrated approach that included installing new processing equipment and increasing what recyclables the program accepts from residents.



Williams

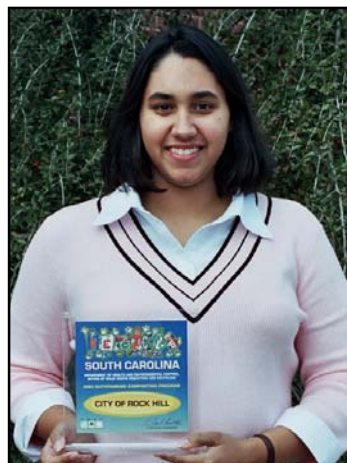
In addition, one of her most visible contributions was in public education and promotion. Williams developed a new logo and standardized the look of their publications to create an easily identifiable brand. She implemented an advertising blitz that targeted the county drop box programs that resulted in a 20 percent increase in tonnages.

Pickens County was named the Outstanding Local Government Waste Reduction/Recycling Program. The county was recognized for its long-time excellence, growth and commitment to education and outreach. The county, for example, has a unique project that has volunteers go do-to-door at homes and businesses that are not recycling and encourage them to recycle. In addition, the county helped local schools set up a cardboard and mixed paper recycling program and implemented a mandatory recycling program for county government offices. In addition, the county hosts quarterly "field trips" for their attendants. The trips are to processors of recyclables – whether it's plastic, paper or glass. According to Gerald Wilson, recycling coordinator for Pickens County, the attendants look forward to the trips and it helps them to understand why their jobs are so important and the end result of their efforts.

Other winners were: the **City of Rock Hill**, Outstanding Composting Program; **Horry County**, Outstanding Local Government Waste Reduction/Recycling Education Program; **Sumter County**, Outstanding Local Government Used Oil Recycling Program; the **S.C. Department of Transportation**, Outstanding State Agency Waste Reduction/Recycling Program; and **Keep the Midlands Beautiful**, Most Creative Waste Reduction/Recycling Effort Award.

Julia Romo of Anderson County was presented the Melba McKenzie Award for Outstanding Volunteer efforts of a person,

Continued on the following page



Left: Judy Wood and Gerald Wilson with Pickens County accepted the award for Outstanding Local Government Waste Reduction/Recycling Program. Center: Jennifer Wilford with the City of Rock Hill accepted the award for Outstanding Composting Program. Right: Katharine Smith (left) accepted the award for Outstanding Local Government Waste Reduction/Recycling Education Program and Elly Manley accepted a Business Recycling Assistance Program Award for recycling efforts in the public sector.

group or association. Romo was recognized for working on numerous environmental projects including playing a key role in the recycling program at her daughter's school to assisting the school district on other recycling projects. She supported the Keep America Beautiful affiliate in Anderson County and later became part of the organization's board of directors. She practices what she preaches at work and at home by driving a hybrid vehicle.



Romo

The University of South Carolina-Aiken was named the Outstanding College or University Waste Reduction and Recycling Program. Their renewed recycling efforts have resulted in the doubling of their recycling rate. Their Health and Safety Manager has taken over the recycling program and worked closely with the housekeeping staff, the Department of Operations and even the Department of Biology and Geology to expand the program. They've added two commodities for a total of 12 this year and indoor and outdoor recycling containers throughout campus.

For their efforts, USC-Aiken also received a grant from the S.C. Sustainable Universities Initiative, enabling them to hire a student recycling coordinator (RC). The RC is charged with developing new programs and will oversee special recycling events including a Reuse-a-Shoe project and America Recycles Day events.

For more information about this year's award recipients, visit www.scdhec.gov/recycle/html/rgawards.html.

Applications for the next awards program will be available on the Web at www.scdhec.gov in late summer or early fall. Local governments are strongly encouraged to nominate themselves or a favorite program.

DHEC announces new attendant training program

After success with a pilot training program in Colleton County (see page 4), DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling (Office) is pleased to announce an opportunity for Office staff to visit your county and provide a customized training program that is specific to your county's recycling efforts.

In addition, Office staff will work closely with the recycling coordinator to organize pertinent information. While there is no cost associated with staff coming to your location for the training, notebooks and handouts must be provided by the county.

Typically, the only contact your residents will have with the recycling program offered within your county is through attendants on site. It is for this reason that the training of these individuals is critical to the success of your program. The more they know, the more likely they are to pass that information to persons using the drop-off site, whether it accepts household waste, recyclables or both.

The training program provides a boost in attendant's morale, gives them an overview of recycling in our state, reminds them of good customer service practices and provides answers to the questions they get from the public.

Components of an attendant training may include:

- an overview of recycling in South Carolina;
- the importance of local attendants to serve and educate the public;
- your county's solid waste plan and ordinances;
- the "chasing arrows" recycling logo;
- recyclable materials in your county;
- tips for keeping your site safe and attractive;
- frequently asked questions from the public;
- resources from DHEC (toll-free number, Web site, technical assistance); and
- certificates and tokens of appreciation for attendants.

For more information on setting up training in your county, please contact Diane Marlow at marlowda@dhec.sc.gov or 1-800-768-7348.

Recycling Attendant of the Year Award

Does your county drop-off recycling program depend on a group of men and women who open the recycling centers early in the morning and stay late into the evening in all kinds of weather? Do you have individuals at these centers that greet their customers when they come to recycle, even know some of the regulars by name? Do these employees keep the recycling centers clean and tidy?

If you can answer yes to any of these questions, then you may have an attendant eligible for the new Recycling Attendant of the Year Award that will be presented for the first time at next year's Recycle Guys Award Program. Each county will have the opportunity to recognize a local attendant winner and these hard-working people will be entered in the new state competition.

Each recycling coordinator (RC) will select an outstanding attendant. These attendants will be judged in the awards competition and the winner announced during the program. The RC will be invited to describe the special contribution of this attendant and make the presentation. All outstanding attendants will be recognized during the luncheon.

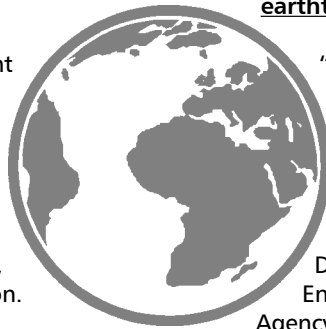
For more information about the award, call 1-800-768-7348.

DID YOU KNOW? All Tractor Supply Company (TSC) stores offer an oil recovery program. Contact your local TSC store for more information about this free service. To find the store nearest you, visit <http://mytscstore.com> and enter your zip code.

'Earth Today' television program to air statewide, nationally on April 22

To celebrate Earth Day 2004, "Earth Today," an environmental education program, will be telecast on Thursday, April 22 from 1 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. on all state ETV stations and via satellite to other PBS stations nationally.

The program features student anchors and reporters in a network morning news format and provides segments on a variety of environmental issues including air and water quality, energy conservation, recycling and litter prevention.



S.C. Science Standards and include the standards, an overview, background, lesson plan and links to additional information. Pre- and post-tests also are available at www.scdhec.gov/earthtoday.gov.

"Earth Today" was developed by the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control, S.C. Energy Office, PalmettoPride, South Carolina ETV and Instructional Television, S.C. Department of Education, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and International Paper.

More than 20 lesson plans were specially developed for third- to eighth-grade students and focus on specific segments in the television program. Each of the lesson plans have been correlated to the

For more information about "Earth Today" or Earth Day celebrations across South Carolina, visit www.scdhec.gov/earthtoday or call 1-800-768-7348.

Earth Day Events for 2004

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION	TIME
Earth Day Chapin	Saturday, April 3	Crooked Creek Park, Chapin	— — —
Electronics Recycling Event	Saturday, April 3	Colonial Ctr. Parking Lot, Columbia	9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Earth Day Jamboree & Easter Egg Hunt	Saturday, April 10	Youth Sports Complex, Chestnut Rd., Fort Jackson	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Coastal Carolina Earth Day Fair	Friday, April 16	Conway	11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Earth Fair	Saturday, April 17	Greenville	11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Earth Day Festival	Saturday, April 17	Park Circle, Charleston	11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
'Earth Today'	Thursday, April 22	SC ETV and Nationwide	1 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Earth Day Fair	Thursday, April 22	BMW, Greer	
Earth Day Celebration	Thursday, April 22	Lander University	11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Earth Day Celebration	Thursday, April 22	Central Carolina Tech	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Earth Day Birthday	Saturday, April 24	Museum of York County	10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Art and Earth Day Festival	Saturday, April 24	Greenville	10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Sparkleberry Fair	Saturday, April 24	Columbia	
Kids Earth Day	Saturday, April 24	North Augusta	10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Blythe Academy Carnival	Monday, April 26	Greenville	2:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Earth Day Celebration Jasper County	Tuesday, April 27	Jasper County Courthouse	10:30 a.m.
GROW Workshop	Thursday, April 29	Greenwood County Public Works Bldg.	9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Fuji's Health and Environmental Fair	Friday, April 30	Fuji	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Earth Day Irmo	Saturday, May 1	Irmo Library	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Kids Day Lexington	Saturday, May 1	Virginia Hilton Park	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

NOTE: City and county recycling coordinators are encouraged to share this information with their school and teacher contacts. You are encouraged to reprint this information in your local publications, through e-mails or newsletters. If you need graphics, please contact Gregg Glymph at glymphdg@dhec.sc.gov.

Revised 'Action' CD-ROM has updated lessons, videos

The "Action for a cleaner tomorrow: A South Carolina Environmental Curriculum Supplement" ("Action") interactive CD-ROM was recently revised to include current and in-depth background information for all of its lessons.

All 156 lessons, that encompass a variety of environmental issues including air, water, energy and recycling, have been correlated to the S.C. Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies curriculum standards. The CD-ROM also includes new environmental videos, Web links and other resources.

To receive a copy of the newly revised "Action" CD-ROM, teachers must attend or have attended a free training workshop. Visit www.scdhec.gov/recycle/html/calendar.html for a schedule of upcoming workshops. To register for a workshop, please call 1-800-326-2630.

Since 1994, more than 20,000 South Carolina teachers have been trained to use the "Action" environmental curriculum supplement.

Energy 2 Learn workshop returns this summer

Energy 2 Learn (E2L): The Summer Workshop will be held Wednesday, June 23, 2004 in Columbia. E2L is a comprehensive workshop for K-12 teachers. The sixth annual workshop is limited to 200 teachers. There is no charge to register and the registration deadline is May 14.

This year's workshop will include the introduction of the revised CD-ROM of "Action for a cleaner tomorrow: A South Carolina Environmental Curriculum Supplement," introduction of the new "Energy 2 Learn: The Classroom Presentation," recognition of the 2003 Energy Educator of the Year and other exciting sessions.

For more information about E2L or to receive a registration form, visit www.scdhec.gov/recycle/html/e2l.html or call 1-800-768-7348.

Pilot workshop offers training for attendants

Who goes one-on-one with your citizens? Chances are good your attendants meet several hundred people a day. How favorable is the first impression of your centers? And does this make a difference in your county recycling rate?

A pilot attendant training workshop, sponsored in part by DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling (Office), was held in Colleton County on March 2 with nearly 30 attendants on a day the county convenience centers were normally closed. The workshop was designed to educate attendants about closed loop recycling and to empower them in educating and serving the public. The session began with an introduction by Johnny Bartley, director of Colleton County Solid Waste, and a welcome by the county's administrator who emphasized how important the attendants were in helping their customers and making the recycling program work.

The training session used items normally thrown away and/or recycled as a basis for the discussions of how things are recycled and the process of manufacturing new materials with recycled content. Attendees also learned about local vendors and future opportunities for the recycling program to collect additional materials. Other topics included how to keep the site clean, how to manage the oil racks and tanks, how to meet and greet customers and how to help educate people using the centers. A list of frequently asked questions was included in notebooks provided for each center and tailored for Colleton County when

possible and directed to DHEC's Recycling Hot Line for other commodities or special problems. The notebooks were provided by Colleton County with input from the Office. In addition, the notebooks contained the county ordinance, attendant duties and job description, county government phone numbers, a list of all fluids that can go in the used oil container, directions to all sites and a new brochure to hand customers.

During the one-and-half hour training, attendants engaged in discussions and were given the opportunity to ask questions. They also received recycled content promotional items and completed a brief survey about the training. Survey results showed they learned new things about their job, they felt the training was very helpful, they learned more about county ordinances and, most importantly, they learned answers to their customers questions.

"With DHEC's support, we were able to provide a thorough training event," said Sylvia Shider, recycling coordinator for Colleton County. "The workshop provided useful information and the attendants had a great time."

Reduce your junk mail!

To be removed from unsolicited mailings, visit www.dmaconsumers.org/offmailinglist.html. When you register with Mail Preference Service, your name is placed on a "delete" file which is made available to companies four times a year – January, April, July and October. Registrants usually notice a decrease in the amount of advertising mail about three months after their names are entered into the file.

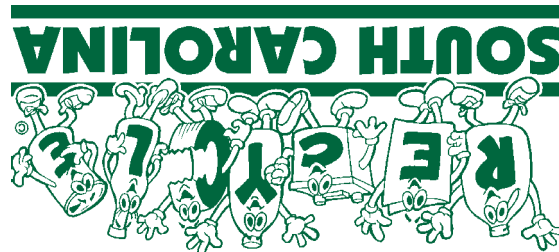
RC Calendar

For a schedule of upcoming Earth Day events, see page 3.

- APRIL 1** - Green Driver Presentation, York Comprehensive High School (HS)
- APRIL 2** - **GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2005 DUE** (Used Oil, Waste Tire and Automobile Dismantler Tire)
- APRIL 3** - Electronics Recycling Event, Colonial Ctr. Parking Lot, Columbia, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- APRIL 7** - Green Driver Presentation, Irmo HS
- APRIL 8** - "Action for a cleaner tomorrow" (Action) Training Workshop, USC-Spartanburg
- APRIL 9** - Energy 2 Learn (E2L) E2IQ Presentation, E. L. Wright Middle School (MS)
- APRIL 12** - Action Workshop, USC-Spartanburg
- APRIL 13** - E2L E2IQ Presentation, Ruby MS
- APRIL 15** - **QUARTERLY REPORTS FOR FY 2004 GRANTS DUE** (Solid Waste, Used Oil, Waste Tire and Automobile Dismantler Tire Grants)
- APRIL 20** - E2L E2IQ Presentation, Hunter-Kinard Tyler Elementary School (ES)
- APRIL 21** - E2L E2IQ Presentation, Hopkins MS
- APRIL 23** - E2L E2IQ Presentation, North Augusta MS
- APRIL 26** - Action Workshop, Clemson University
- APRIL 29** - GROW Workshop, Greenwood County Public Works Bldg., 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- APRIL 30** - E2L E2IQ Presentation, Chesnee MS
- MAY 1** - Kids Day Lexington, Virginia Hilton Pk., 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- MAY 17** - E2L E2IQ Presentation, Chesnee MS
- JUNE 2** - Action Workshop, Summer Academy, Pickens County
- JUNE 4** - Green Driver Presentation, Boiling Springs HS
- JUNE 16** - Action Workshop, Greenville Soil and Water Conservation
- JUNE 23** - E2L: Summer Workshop, Columbia

For the most current schedule of events, visit www.scdhec.gov/recycle/html/calendar.html.

This newsletter is printed on RECYCLED content paper.



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